

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome to the middle of week 9. The term has been moving by quickly and on Monday night we presented our first round of data to the BOT signalling our target groups and what we are doing to meet the needs of our learners.

I cannot reiterate enough the importance of a clear partnership with yourselves and the staff at school so your children can progress well throughout the year and that we are all on the same page for their learning goals. Please contact your child's teacher or lead teacher to make appointments to view your child's work and ask about their progress. We encourage e-mail if it works for you and a phone call. The office will pass on your messages.

The contact list is on the **school app** and we encourage you to use this because the calendar is also on there as well as a list of events. You can also do your absent notes from your phone and check the alerts that have been sent out. The app is free to download and is a useful tool for the school with over 600 people having the app now. It rated highly on the communication survey.

| FULL NAME         | POSITION / TITLE                       | PHONE (WITH AREA CODE) | EXTENSION | E-MAIL                          |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|
| ‡ School Office   |                                        | 03 302 7113            |           | principal@rakaia.school.nz      |
| ‡ Mark Ellis      | Principal                              | 0273477982             | 2         | principal@rakaia.school.nz      |
| ‡ Mandy Beevor    | Office manager                         | 033027113              | 4         | mandybeevor@rakaia.school.nz    |
| ‡ Emma Kelly      | Teacher Room 3                         | 033027113              |           | emmakelly@rakaia.school.nz      |
| ‡ Anna Walsh      | Junior Syndicate Leader and NE teacher | 033027113              |           | annawalsh@rakaia.school.nz      |
| ‡ Shane Dawson    | Leader of Mahi Tahī                    | 033027113              |           | shanedawson@rakaia.school.nz    |
| ‡ Gretchen Ford   | Office and Teacher aide                | 033027113              |           | gretchenford@rakaia.school.nz   |
| ‡ Anita Paul      | Deputy Principal                       | 033027113              |           | anitapaul@rakaia.school.nz      |
| ‡ Ashleigh Scott  | Teacher in Mahi tahi                   | 033027113              |           | ashleighscott@rakaia.school.nz  |
| ‡ Pauline Doody   | Teacher and SENCO                      | 033027113              |           | paulinedoody@rakaia.school.nz   |
| ‡ Natasha Jenkins | Teacher Room Mahitahi                  | 033027113              |           | natashajenkins@rakaia.school.nz |
| ‡ Kelly Markham   | Teacher Mahitahi Room                  | 033027113              |           | kellymarkham@rakaia.school.nz   |
| ‡ Lagan Gardyne   | Teacher Mahitahi Room                  | 033027113              |           | lagangardyne@rakaia.school.nz   |
| ‡ Sharon Crowe    | Room 4 Fixed Term                      | 033027113              |           | sharoncrowe@rakaia.school.nz    |

## School ERO Report

Our report is now online for anyone to view.

<http://www.ero.govt.nz/review-reports/rakaia-school-02-03-2017/>

*The vision and valued outcomes defined by the school for all children are to learn and play together in partnership, strive for quality and be respectful of themselves, others and the environment.*

*School leaders and teachers use achievement information to identify children's learning needs. Resourcing by the board enables learning support staff to assist children while the class teacher works closely with those whose learning needs are greatest. Teachers work in partnership with parents by sharing strategies, resources and ideas that will support children in their learning at home. The school has been involved in the Accelerated Learning in Mathematics (ALiM) programme. A teacher with strengths in the teaching of mathematics has been working with children at risk of not achieving. Increased achievement levels are evident as a result of this intervention.*

*Teachers know the children as individuals. They actively encourage positive and respectful relationships. These clearly reflect the school's values which are closely aligned to the Māori concepts of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga. Māori children are able to regularly hear and use te reo Māori alongside their teachers and peers. Older children are encouraged to care for younger children. Able and knowledgeable children (tuakana) willingly support other children (teina) who need help with their learning.*

*The school's organisational processes and practices successfully develop and enact the school's vision, values, goals and targets for equity and excellence.*

*The curriculum has been reviewed and is presently being updated to more effectively reflect the school's values and vision. The school strongly promotes a whānau-like environment that is clearly evident in the positive interactions between children and staff. Teachers effectively use the values to support the emphasis on respecting others. This approach is building a more responsive environment for children and families whose cultural background differs from that of others.*

*The principal effectively uses the strengths of the team to lead and make collective decisions. Targeted professional learning and development is well-aligned to the school goals. School leaders actively promote collaborative practices including professional discussion and reflection to improve teaching and learning across the school.*

***Our Recommendations to act on:***

*ERO recommends that the board and senior leaders make sure that:*

- *robust appraisal is used to increase teacher capacity and capability*
- *greater emphasis is placed on accelerating the progress of children at risk of not achieving at the National Standards*
- *planned and regular internal processes are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the school's curriculum and of the board's stewardship role.*

**Updates and Community notices:**

- Please be aware we have head lice at school and actively encourage you to check your children's hair and for all girls to have their hair up. Treatment needs to include the washing of bedclothes and the active combing of your children's hair after washing and conditioning.
- Mufti Day is tomorrow, March 30. Donations can be made in the school office for the support of the Rakaia Fireman who are climbing the Sky Tower for the Leukaemia and Blood Foundation of NZ.
- Friday is sports competition day and the children are encouraged to wear their house colours. It is also Full School Assembly day and this will be held in Mahi Tahi at 9.10am after the roll has been taken. We look forward to seeing you there.